



Willoughby Primary School  
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Head Teacher: Miss Beatrice Smith

'Learning For Life'

2023 February

Dear Parents/Carers

I write with an update of school matters as we approach the half-term break. We return after the holidays on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

This issue contains:

- Staffing News
- Willoughby Award Winners
- Parent teacher meetings
- 'Willoughby Sings' Event ...
- Safer Internet Day
- School Meals
- Drumba
- School Council
- Book Week
- Playground
- Finally...

### **Staffing News**

It is with a very heavy heart that I have notified governors, at this early stage, that I am resigning from my position as Head Teacher at Willoughby Primary School, at the end of the academic year (July 2023).

I have taken the decision to leave after 32 years of teaching, of which, 27 years have been at Willoughby Primary. I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenges and opportunities I have been given during my time here and feel privileged to have served in such a unique and wonderful school. I will say more in the summer term, but for the present I would like to record my thanks to the wonderful staff, parents, Governors and of course the children of our fantastic school. I have given my notice early in order for the Governing Body to make a smooth transition for the future leadership of the school.

### **Farewell to Mrs Moothia**

It is with real regret that I have to tell you that Mrs Moothia will be leaving Willoughby School at the end of the Easter term due to family commitments. She writes in her letter:

*"I have loved my time here but for personal reasons have made the decision to leave. I am sorry that my time has been cut short and I will miss the staff and children whom I have got to know during my employment. I wish everyone the best in the future."*

An advert for the vacancy is currently on the Notts County Council jobs page. If anyone is interested they can contact the office for more information.

### **Willoughby Award Winners**

Congratulations to our recent winners of the Willoughby Award, awarded for effort in work, behaviour and other aspects of school life:

13/1 Edward B (Y6)

27/1 Duke (Y6)

20/1 Illya (Y4)

### **Parent Teacher Meetings**

We hope to see or speak to all our parent/carers for the parent teacher meetings coming up before half term.

We have offered either a phone call or face to face meeting for flexibility. Where parents are unable to make this date, alternative arrangements can be made. If you still have not returned your request slip, please do so as soon as possible.

### **'Willoughby Sings Whatever the Weather' Event**

We have added an exciting event to the calendar for the end of term. Following on from our successful singing event last year, we have decided to do another one!

Willoughby Sings 'Whatever the Weather' will be held on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March** from 6pm to 8pm in the village hall.

It will be a gentle mixture of songs, dance and performance and a celebration of around the theme of 'weather'. Put the date in your diaries.

FOWS have, once again, offered to organise refreshments for the evening to make it even more special.

### **Safer Internet Day 2023**

Safer Internet Day 2023 will be celebrated globally on the 11<sup>th</sup> February with the theme:

Together for a better internet. Safer Internet Day aims to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. To find out more about the campaign and how to get involved go to [www.saferinternetday.org.uk](http://www.saferinternetday.org.uk)

Nottinghamshire Police also have a free webinar for parents around keeping children safe online. It is a free to sign up course through Eventbrite.

[Online Safety Advice for Parents - Safer Internet Day Tickets, Tue, Feb 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

### **School Meals**

Dinners are free under the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme for EYFS, Years 1 and 2. The cost of a school dinner remains at £2.40 per meal for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Our dinners are collected every day by taxi service from County Hall in West Bridgford and served by Mrs Lawrence here in school with the support of staff. The dinners are excellent value and popular with the children.

### **Drumba Sessions**

I hope your child is enjoying their Drumba sessions on Fridays. These are being paid for out of our School Sports Premium. It is an exercise format that combines drumsticks with dance steps to create a fast paced, intense cardio workout for the upper and lower body. As a school we are required to show the impact of this funding stream and consider the benefit on pupils' physical well-being. Drumba offers us an alternative activity alongside traditional sporting activities, is

inclusive and ensures full participation rates. Photographs of one of our recent lessons are now on the blog section on the school website.

### School Council

We had lots to discuss at our recent School Council meeting - the minutes have been typed up and put on display in school on the School Council notice board.

The group agreed to organise and run a toy swap event on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February**, just before half term. Children can bring in a toy/game on that day, which they no longer play with, and swap it for a different one.

We also discussed Red Nose Day which is coming up in March - details to follow.

Arabella and Duke, our UKS2 School Council members, will be representing the school at the next Pupil Parliament on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. 'Kids Against Plastic' are the guest speakers at the session and there will be an opportunity for the Pupil Parliament reps to ask Kids Against Plastic questions. We look forward to hearing the feedback from them both.

### Book Week

Our School Council also discussed World Book Day, which is on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Children are invited to come to school dressed as a fictional character on this day- time to get planning! This is not a fund-raising event; it is part of our Book Week which runs from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

Staff are planning book activities and story swaps for the week. Look out for World Book Day tokens and information on how to use them arriving home in book bags before half term.

School Council are also planning a book swap on World Book Day itself. Children can bring in a book and swap it for a different one.

### Playground

We have had a new black 'mesh' put around the main part of the playground to replace the green fencing that was there before. This stops smaller balls etc going through onto the road and is much smarter and more practical than the old fence which constantly used to rip and blow down in the wind.

Mrs Barker and FOWS have also been planning the upgrade of the canopy area for EYFS using the Co-op funding. We will keep you updated on developments as they happen.

### Finally...

- See attached posters for half term activities with Clements Multisports, Rattle & Roll, Notts County FC as well as information about the Little Wickets Programme.
- The blog posts on the school website are regularly changed. The posts are a great way to see recent photographs of activities going on in school. Thank you to Mrs Affleck for keeping the website up to date.

Last but not least, I would personally like to thank parents and governors who help support us in all that we do in school.

My hope is that you continue to be happy with every aspect of our school. I know all staff work hard to make this a happy and safe environment in which our children can achieve. If you have any suggestions or concerns please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kindest regards



Beatrice Smith, Head Teacher



# February Half Term Holiday Clubs

These clubs are open to children aged 3-11

Running at:

- St Edmund Campion, West Bridgford
- Kinoulton Primary School
- Radcliffe on Trent Infant and Nursery School
- St Peter's Primary school, East Bridgford
- Hawthorne Primary & Nursery school, Bestwood Village
- Banks Road Infant & Nursery school, Toton
- South Wilford Primary School
- Westdale Junior School, Mapperley

Activities include dodgeball, multi-skills, dance, drama, art and crafts, team activities and much more.



To find out more or to book visit  
[www.rattleandrollperformance.com](http://www.rattleandrollperformance.com)  
or call 07722 014301



# Little Wickets

Cricket Fun For Kids & Toddlers

**"Championing Teamwork, Fair Play & Fun"**



**February Half Term  
Softball Cricket Fun**

**For All Primary School Boys & Girls  
Monday 13th, Tuesday 14th & Wednesday 15th February 2023**

Rushcliffe School, Boundary Road, West Bridgford NG2

7BW Indoors

9am – 3.30pm

Registration from 8.30am & Pick-up by 4pm



More than just batting, bowling & fielding; the qualified, vetted and experienced Little Wickets' coaching team ensure that the 'Spirit of Cricket' and good sportsmanship is at the heart of all the soft-ball cricket-based activities. Separated into small groups based on age and ability the children develop all-round technical skills, a sense of fair play and teamwork.

Games throughout the day will ensure their new skills are put to the test.  
Most importantly they'll have FUN!

Book anything from a Half Day to all 3 Days

Morning-only kids can be picked up at 12.15pm or stay to eat lunch and be collected at 1pm.

Kids should bring their own packed lunch & plenty of drinks

All 3 Days - £95

Full Day - £35

Half Day - £20

10% Younger Sibling(s) & Twins Discounts (Book By Email)

**PLACES ARE LIMITED - DON'T DELAY**

e: [info@littlewickets.com](mailto:info@littlewickets.com) t: 0115 671 0565

[www.littlewickets.com/holiday-activities/](http://www.littlewickets.com/holiday-activities/)



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Clements Multisports



## Half Term Fun Days!



**Clements**  
Multisport Coaching

### What?

Fun team games for all abilities!

•DODGEBALL •ROUNDERS •FOOTBALL •ATHLETICS  
•TAG RUGBY •ARCHERY •VOLLEYBALL & MORE

### When?

Nottinghamshire Schools- 16<sup>th</sup> February

Leicestershire Schools- 21<sup>st</sup> February

8:30am - 3:30pm

### Where?

Platt Lane,  
Keyworth,  
NG12 5GE

### Price?

£30



Look out for more  
discounts on our  
Facebook page!



Siblings or friends? Use discount code:  
**MORETHEMERRIER25** for bookings of  
3 or more for 25% off!



# HALF TERM HOLIDAY CAMP

8-14

TUESDAY 14TH - FRIDAY 17TH  
FEBRUARY  
MULTI-SPORT FUN SESSIONS

9AM  
-  
4PM



**Notts County  
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THE PORTLAND CENTRE, MUSKHAM STREET,  
NOTTINGHAM, NG2 2HB

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